**Complementary and Alternative Medicine Forum**

**10 points** for your primary response plus **2 points for each of two** SUBSTANTIVE responses to other students.

You may respond to as many messages as you wish, but you only earn points for two substantive replies.

No points a reearned for mere agree/disagree or "good job" comments. You must address an issue to earn points.

Learning Objectives for this assignment

1. Relate the field of complemenary and alternative medicine to health psychology

2. Describe the difference between causal effects and placebo effects of a substance or procedure

3. Describe the student's conclusions about the scientific perspective applied to the societal issue of health insurance payments for treatment by alternative medicine substances or procedures.

View the video PBS Frontline "The Alternative Fix" at: [www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/altmed/](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/altmed/)

This video will explain the need for and the controversies over the research you see on the NCCAM web site below.

Peruse the web site for The National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM) at: [nccam.nih.gov/](http://nccam.nih.gov/)

**In your response in this forum:**

1. Describe two or more aspects of this topic that you found interesting and/or useful from the NCCAM web site (200 words or more)

2. Describe your interpretation of a quote of the editor of the Journal of the American Medical Association in 1998 regarding the need for creating NCCAM: "In God we trust; all others must have data."

3. Should health insurance be required to pay for treatments that do not have research evidence to support their effectiveness? Why or why not? (100 words or more)